

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. No claims have been amended, added or canceled. Thus, claims 1-27 are pending.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-27 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,604,871 issued to Pecone (*Pecone*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,611,912 issued to Maleck, et al (*Maleck*). For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants submit that claims 1-27 are not rendered obvious by *Pecone* and *Maleck*.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that the filing date of *Maleck* shortly precedes the filing date of the current application. While Applicants have not submitted an affidavit or declaration of prior invention under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 herewith, Applicants may do so in the future. As discussed below, Applicants submit that the claims of the present U.S. Patent application recite features in disclosed by either *Pecone* or *Maleck*.

Claim 1 recites:

a riser card coupled with the motherboard, the riser card having a circuit thereon that interacts with a corresponding portion of the chipset to provide a functionality to the system, the circuit including a hardware component that has a corresponding driver, ***the riser card also having a memory to store one or more indications of the functionality***, wherein the riser card operates as a logical extension of the motherboard...

Thus, Applicants claim a memory on the riser card to store an indication of the functionality provided by the riser card. Claim 10 recites a riser card having:

a memory to store the one or more indications of the functionality.

Claim 19 similarly recites a memory to store an indication of a functionality provided by a riser card.

The Office Action states:

Accordingly, *Pecone* also teaches a riser card coupled with the motherboard (col. 7, lines 1-4; lines 34-38), having a circuit (col. 4, line 67; col. 5, lines 2-5; col. 3, line 35) that interacts with a portion of the integrated circuits ("chipset") to provide a functionality (col. 3, line 37) and having a memory (col. 3, line 34) to store one or more indications of the functionality.

See page 3. Applicants note that detailed citations are provided for most of the claim elements. However, no citation is provided for the memory storing the indication of functionality. This is because *Pecone* does *not* teach or suggest a memory on a riser card to store *an indication of the functionality* provided by the riser card.

Pecone discloses use of a memory on a riser card for *support* of the functionality provided by the riser card. See col. 3, lines 31-34 (disclosing a secondary cache memory). *Maleck* is not cited to teach, nor does *Maleck* teach or suggest a memory on a riser card to store an indication of the functionality provided by the riser card. Because neither *Pecone* nor *Maleck* teach or suggest a memory on a riser card to store an indication of the functionality provided by the riser card, no combination of *Pecone* and *Maleck* can teach or suggest the invention of claims 1, 10 and 19.

Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1. Claims 11-18 depend from claim 10. Claims 20-27 depend from claim 19. Because dependent claims include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, Applicants submit that claims 2-9, 11-18 and 20-27 are not rendered obvious by *Pecone* and *Maleck* for at least the reasons set forth above.

CONCLUSION


For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 1-27 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date:

Aug 23, 2004


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